Chairman Mike Gallagher Speech

Address on the Ongoing Genocide of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang
as prepared for delivery
10.11.23

We must face a horrifying truth.

The Uyghurs, many of whom practice the Muslim faith, are being erased.

Genocide is, yet again, occurring. This time at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party.

To members of the Uyghur community, we are deeply grateful for your bravery. We know that it has come at great cost.

In March, our committee heard testimony from two heroic Uyghur women whose stories took us to the center of the universe, to the place where the world's moral attention should be focused – to Xinjiang.

These two women were both inside the concentration camps. They are first hand witnesses to the systemic, unimaginable brutality.

Witnesses to the attempted elimination of a people, a culture, a civilization.

Witnesses to the largest extra-judicial mass interment of a religious minority since the Holocaust.

Witnesses to erasure.

That's why Elie Wiesel swore to fight those who would forget. Who would avert their gaze.

That is why, on this committee, we are determined to make sure that the world knows, and that in fifty years—when the Xinjiang genocide is remembered as one of the abominations of the 21st century—no corporate executive, no policy maker, no investor, no university president can look their grandchildren in the eye and claim they didn't know.